

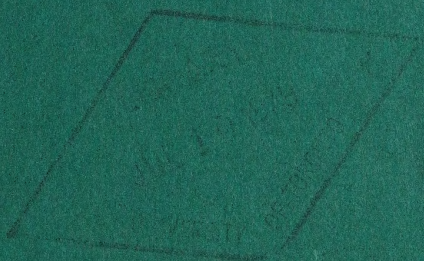
CA24N

SM

-Z 250

Government
Publications 10

How to use your Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card



Ontario

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

March 1979

Contents

Page

Introduction	1
Who is Eligible for a Privilege Card	2
Pharmacies	3
Businesses	4
Banks	4
Trust Companies	5
Cinemas and Theatres	5
Places of Special Interest	6
Off-Season Shows	6
Transportation	8, 9
Hotels, Motels and Restaurants	10
Sports	
Spectator	10
Participation/Fitness Clubs	11
Special Education Programs	11

Preface

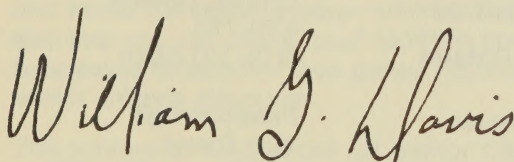
CA20W
SM
-7250

Ontario senior citizens have shown an interest in a range of educational, cultural and recreational activities and it was felt that it might be helpful to compile a guide to the kinds of activities and the organizations through which they are provided.

Senior citizens have already given much to our province, a contribution which is deeply appreciated by all of us.

I hope, that as you glance through these pages, many of you will be encouraged to take greater advantage of the many points of interest and leisure opportunities Ontario has to offer.

Many of the attractions listed in this guide reflect the rich and bountiful culture of our province. It is a heritage to which our senior citizens have made a major contribution and one we hope you will all enjoy to the fullest.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "William G. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'W' and 'D'.

William G. Davis
Premier

Ministry Senior Citizens' Consultants

Southwestern Ontario

Hamilton
Kathy Cook
Century 21 Building
100 Main Street East
39th & 40th Floors
Hamilton, Ontario
L8N 3W4
(416) 526-9300

London
Walter Chmiel
6th Floor
495 Richmond Street
London, Ontario
N6A 5A9
(519) 438-5111

Waterloo
Les Phillips
6th Floor, Waterloo Sq.
75 King Street S.
Waterloo, Ontario
N2J 1P2
(519) 886-4700

Central Ontario

Barrie
Mike Klejman
5th Floor
70 Collier Street
Box 910
Barrie, Ontario
(705) 737-1311

Toronto
Evelyn Harvey
5th Floor
110 Eglinton Ave. W
Toronto, Ontario
M4R 1A3
(416) 965-9943

Peter Murchison
5th Floor
110 Eglinton Ave. W
Toronto, Ontario
(416) 965-9943

Northern Ontario

Sudbury
Joe Tschirky
8th Floor
St. Andrews Place
111 Larch Street
Sudbury, Ontario
P3E 4T5
(705) 674-7543

Thunder Bay
Kathleen Heggie
1200 Walsh Street W
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7E 4x4
(807) 475-1515

Southeastern Ontario

Ottawa
Sandra Pickerstaff
Room 201
2197 East Riverside Dr.
Ottawa, Ontario
K1H 7X3
(613) 737-5520

Peterborough
Alan Cavell
139 George Street N
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 3G6
(705) 742-9292

Oshawa
(416) 576-9001

Introduction

Many cultural institutions, transportation companies, tourist attractions and places of business offer special privileges to senior citizens who are holders of the Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card. Senior citizens' clubs/centres often qualify for group rates which may result in substantial savings.

This list and the pamphlet *Resources for Senior Citizens** will give you information on the kinds of services available, free or at reduced rates, to Ontario senior citizens.

While this list encompasses the entire province of Ontario, it is by no means complete. For specific information related to your area, or one you are planning to visit, contact local sources of information such as Senior Citizens' Centres, Community Information Centres, local municipal offices, Ministry of Industry and Tourism offices, Chambers of Commerce, the nearest Senior Citizens' Consultant of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, or other seniors. Remember also that you can check local facilities and businesses directly for their policy regarding senior citizens discounts.

* The publication *Resources for Senior Citizens*, is available to the general public from:

Communications Branch
Ministry of Community and Social
Services
7th Floor, Hepburn Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1E9
Telephone: (416) 965-7825

Who is Eligible for a Privilege Card

Many Ontario seniors age 65 or over, are eligible for a numbered Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card which entitles them to the Ontario Drug Benefit.

Persons entitled to the federal government's Old Age Security (OAS) automatically receive a numbered Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card which serves as identification for the Drug Benefit as well as other provincial privileges. It should arrive in the month following the month in which you receive your first payment of OAS. Drug coverage is *not* effective immediately you turn 65 years of age. If you are eligible for OAS, *you do not need to apply* for the Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card.

You should apply for the drug benefit if you are 65 years of age or over *and* :

- do not receive the federal government OAS cheque *and*;

- have not received a Senior Citizens' Privilege Card *and*

- have resided in Ontario for the past 12 consecutive months as a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.

You should apply in the month in which you turn 65, or the 12th month of residency, whichever is later.

Any permanent resident of Ontario, age 65 or over, is eligible for an unnumbered Ontario Senior Citizens' Privilege Card which is recognized by some business facilities and attractions as identification for reduced prices for seniors.

Seniors who have not lived in Ontario for 12 consecutive months and who do not receive Old Age Security pensions can apply for this card.

While you do not qualify for Drug Benefit, you are entitled to all other privileges available to Senior Citizens.

When you attain 12 months residency please apply for a replacement and numbered Senior Citizens Privilege card which includes Drug Benefit.

Application forms for both numbered and unnumbered Senior Citizens' Privilege Cards may be obtained from:

Ministry of Health
Drug Benefit
Box 21,000, Station A
Toronto, Ontario
M5W 1Y5
Telephone: (416) 965-9337

Pharmacies

A numbered Senior Citizens' Privilege Card entitles its owner to any of 1,700 prescription drugs, as provided by Ontario Drug Benefit. The prescription must be listed in the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary, and must be prescribed by an Ontario physician or dentist.

Drug Benefit prescriptions can be filled by Ontario pharmacies which have signed a Drug Benefit Participation Agreement with the Ministry of Health. This includes virtually all pharmacies in the province. In certain areas of the province, physicians also fill Drug Benefit prescriptions for the convenience of their patients. Prescriptions filled outside Ontario are not covered.

In addition, some pharmacies offer reduced prices on non-prescription items and in some instances will issue their own cards. For more detailed information please contact your local pharmacy or Elderly Persons' Centre, or Ontario Drug Benefit, Ministry of Health, 1st floor, 7 Overlea Blvd., Toronto, Ontario M4H 1A8, telephone 965-9451.

Businesses

Some businesses such as hairdressers, cleaning establishments, drug and variety stores offer discounts to seniors. Check with your local businesses to see if they have such a policy.

Banks

The Bank of Montreal

The Bank of Nova Scotia

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

The Province of Ontario Savings Office

The Provincial Bank of Canada

The Royal Bank of Canada

The Toronto Dominion Bank;

and many others, offer as either a special service to seniors or sometimes as their regular service to customers:

Free chequing privileges (sometimes tied to size of deposit)

No service charge on payment of utility bills

No commission on traveller's cheques

Reduced rate on rental of Safety Deposit Boxes

Annual bonus interest rates adjusted to the cost of living index on deposits in special savings accounts.

Monthly interest payments on some types of term deposits

For more specific information, please contact the manager of your own bank.

Trust Companies

Canada Permanent Trust Company
Guaranty Trust Company Limited
National Trust Company Limited

Many trust companies have similar services for seniors as listed above or may offer:

Reduced rate on tax return
completion service fees

Free personalized cheques

No service charges on personal
money orders

(sometimes that applies to
Canadian dollar
money orders only)

Free deposits by mail

For more specific information,
please contact the branch manager
of your own trust company.

Cinemas and Theatres

Famous Players Theatres

Offers reduced admission of \$1.00
to seniors. Famous Players Golden
Age Club Card must first be
obtained from theatre manager.
Card holder is also entitled to free
admission on his/her birthday.

Canadian Odeon Theatres

Offers \$1.00 admission to seniors
with proof of age.

Twentieth Century Theatres

Offers \$1.00 admission to seniors.
Card must be obtained from the
theatre manager. Card holder is
also entitled to free admission on
his/her birthday.

Many other local cinemas and theatres offer
reduced rates to seniors. Please check with the
theatre you wish to attend for the precise rates.

Places of Special Interest

The Canadian National Exhibition

The Canadian National Exhibition admits senior citizens free of charge Monday through Friday. A Senior Citizens' Day is also held every year when in addition to the free admission, special activities and entertainment are provided for seniors.

For further information telephone:
Canadian National Exhibition at
366-7551

Off-Season Shows

The Canadian National Sportsmen's Show
Toronto International Boat Show
Camping on Wheels Show
Dockside Show

The above shows offer a special admission price of \$1.00 to seniors.

For further information write to:
Box 168, Toronto Dominion Centre
Toronto, Ontario; or:
telephone (416)862-7800

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
The Coliseum
Exhibition Place
Toronto, Ontario

Offers \$1.00 admission to seniors on the first Friday of the Fair to grounds and the afternoon horse show.

Other places of interest to look for, many of which have special rates for seniors:

Observation Towers

(C.N. Tower, Toronto and The Skylon, Niagara Falls)

Pioneer Villages

(Doon Pioneer Village, Kitchener, and Black Creek Pioneer Village, Downsview)

Museums/Art Galleries

(Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto; Dionne Quintuplet Museum, North Bay; Hastings County Museum, Belleville; Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; McMichael Canadian Collection, Kleinberg)

Transportation

Air Canada

At airport ticket offices across Canada. Offers seniors 10% discounts on travel anywhere in Canada, on any day, except peak holidays.

CP Air

Offers reduced fares for seniors within Canada. A 10% discount applies on regular fares between major cities. Confirmed reservations are permitted. On flights within Northern B.C., Alberta, Yukon, a 50% discount is offered on a standby basis only.

VIA Rail Canada Inc. (formerly CN and CP Rail)

At VIA ticket offices across Canada and at appointed travel agents, VIA (formerly Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Rail inter-city passenger services) offers discounted fares known as 65-Plus. The discount is 33 1/3% rounded down to the next even dollar applies when the regular fare is \$5.00 or more. The 65-Plus fares are good for any day of travel with the exception of major holiday periods. The discount applies to coach accommodation only. Club car and sleeping accommodation is at regular rates.

Ontario Northland

Offers 50% discount to seniors 65 years of age or older on all bus and rail services (except the Slumber Bus service between Toronto and Timmins) when the fare is \$2.00 or over. Any proof of age which shows name and age is accepted.

GO Transit

Offers half-fares to seniors anytime. Any proof of age which shows name and age is accepted.

Greyhound Lines of Canada Ltd.

Offers 10% reductions on both one-way and round-trip regular fares for travel commencing on Mondays through Thursday, inclusive. Please note that in this instance, Thursday is extended to 2 a.m. Friday.

The 10% does not apply to excursion or Ameripass fares which may be in effect at the time of purchase and travel.

All fares are subject to change.

Voyageur Colonial Ltd.

Offers reduced fares for seniors on its routes in Ontario and Quebec: 50% on the C fares, good any day except Friday and Sunday. Trips made on those days are charged at regular rates.

Bus Lines

Most Ontario bus lines offer special rates to senior citizens. Please check with your local bus company for more accurate information on its services to seniors.

Taxi Companies

Some Ontario taxi companies offer reduced rates for senior citizens. Check your local taxi company for details.

Hotels, Motels and Restaurants

Many hotels, motels and restaurants offer reduced rates for senior citizens. Please check with your local establishment for its policy regarding senior citizen discounts.

Sports

Spectator

Ontario Jockey Club

P.O. Box 156

Rexdale, Ontario

Telephone: 675-6110

Offers free admission to seniors with proof of age on special days of the year at their four raceways. Includes free non-alcoholic beverage, copy of Raceway Journal and free parking. Details are announced in daily papers.

Woodbine

Greenwood

Fort Erie

Mohawk

Blue Jays Baseball

Exhibition Stadium

Exhibition Place

Toronto, Ontario

Offers half-price admission to seniors on most seats on eight special days throughout the season. Check daily newspapers or telephone 595-0077 for dates.

Check your local sports organization, arena and/or stadium concerning their policy on special prices for senior citizens.

Participation/Fitness Clubs

YMCA and YWCA

Special consideration is given to senior citizens at YMCAs, YWCAs and YM - YWCAs throughout Ontario. Discounts on membership, residence or program fees may vary so ask your local Y about its discounts for senior citizens. Check your local health clubs, bowling green or lanes, golf course, curling club or any other recreational facility to see if they offer special rates to seniors.

Special Education Programs

Both regular and part-time study is offered to senior citizens by most of Ontario's universities and community colleges. In many cases, there are no admission requirements specific to seniors except proof of age and often tuition fees are waived or reduced.

In addition, many community colleges offer specialized courses for senior citizens dealing with topics such as retirement planning and problems of retirement.

Colleges may differ somewhat in their admission regulations. Prospective students are advised to check with the institution they wish to attend.

For further information on study opportunities, admission requirements, fees and student loans, bursaries and other forms of assistance, consult the publication *Horizons* at your local library or contact:

Ministry of Colleges and Universities
Information Resources Branch
9th floor, Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1B9



3 1761 11470097 4